



State of Connecticut COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

450 Columbus Boulevard, Suite 2, Hartford, CT 06103

Promoting Equality and Justice for all People

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – March 19, 2020

CHRO Condemns Divisive Language Describing the Coronavirus

(HARTFORD, CT) – The Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities strongly condemns media postings, tweets, and other social media posts calling the COVID-19 virus the “Chinese virus”. These offensive messages target individuals of Chinese or Asian descent and set them up for ostracism, hostility, and even violence.

Now more than ever, it is clear we are a global community, and actions and words quickly reverberate around the world. Racist or other ethnic attacks have no place in our society. Our country has been built and continues to be built by people of all different races, from all different countries. Comments that fan the flames of racism must be condemned in the strongest of terms, especially when they come from our leaders. Join with the CHRO in calling out racism and trying to stop it whenever you see it. That is the only way for it to stop. We join with CT Attorney General William Tong, New York City Mayor William de Blasio and others in condemning these racist messages.

If you, or anyone you know, believes that they are being harassed or otherwise targeted because of your race, ancestry, national origin, or any other protected class, contact the CHRO as soon as possible at the office associated with the town where you live at www.ct.gov/chro.

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